

The invention relates to a method for transferring data from a first switch to a second switch selectively by line-switching or by packet-switching as well as to a switch for carrying out the method. Data packets are thereby first transferred packet-switched through a packet-switching network to the second switch. With the presence of a corresponding control signal a line-switching connection is established from the first switch to the second switch and the data are then transferred through this connection. Where applicable a renewed change over to a packet-switching transfer is carried out. The invention allows a flexible packet-switching or line-switching data transfer linked with dynamic costs between the junctions of a telecommunications network and provides the conditions for a cost-effective data transfer with real time properties.